

## Unit 3 STUDY GUIDE

### The Linkage Institutions

#### Chapter 8 -- POLITICAL PARTIES

1. Explain the roles of the party in (a) electorate, (b) as an organization, and (c) government.

	Explain	Name three people
<b>Party-in-the-ELECTORATE</b>		
<b>Party-as-an-ORGANIZATION</b>		
<b>Party-in-the-GOVERNMENT</b>		

2. Identify the five major functions of a political party.

1.
2.
3.
4.
5.

3. What was the New Deal Coalition? Explain how it changed by the end of the 20<sup>th</sup> Century.

List the demographic groups of the New Deal Coalition.	Identify the current party affiliation of each group. If the group's political loyalties shifted, explain why.

4. Explain three reasons why minor parties are significant. Evaluate the significance of third party candidates during the last 20 years.

5. What is the difference between party realignment and party dealignment? Provide an example of each.

6. Analyze the pros and cons of having two dominant political parties.

Advantages of 2-Party System	Disadvantages of 2-Party System

7. Explain the decentralized structure of the political parties in our system of federalism.

8. Distinguish between (a) national convention, (b) national committee, and (c) national chair.

	What role do they play in the party?	Who are they?
<b>National Convention (The Delegates)</b>		
<b>National Committee</b>		
<b>National Chair</b>		

9. Differentiate between the major parties on platform issues.

<b>Policy Issue</b>	<b>Democrats</b>	<b>Republicans</b>	<b>Libertarians</b>
1.			
2.			
3.			
4.			
5.			
6.			
7.			
8.			

10. Despite the previous chart, why do the major parties often take centrist policy positions?

11. Explain why the people sometimes prefer divided government.

12. Explain the (a) rational choice theory – The Downs Model, and (b) responsible party model.

13. List demographic voting blocs beneath each voter type.

Democrats	Swing	Republicans

### Chapter 9 – NOMINATIONS & CAMPAIGNS

1. How does a candidate win the nomination of his/her party?
2. Who is responsible for the nomination process?
3. When does the nomination process take place? Approximate dates
4. Explain the Iowa Caucus.
5. Explain how a primary works.
6. Would you whether vote in a caucus or primary? Explain.
7. Who decides whether a state will have a caucus or primary?
8. Which method is used in most states?
9. Who sets the dates for the caucuses and primaries?
10. What are some criticisms about Iowa and New Hampshire being first in the presidential nomination process?

11. Explain frontloading.

12. Why should people vote in caucuses and primaries if only the delegates decide who the nominee will be?

13. How are national convention delegates selected? (Draw triangle)

14. Describe the demographics of the average delegate.

15. What is the McGovern-Fraser Commission? Why was it set up?

16. Who are Superdelegates? What role did they play in the 2008 election?

17. Which party prefers winner-take-all primaries? Why?

18.

<b>Criticisms of the Primary and Caucus System</b>

19. Outline the four nights of a national convention

National Convention		
Monday		
Tuesday		
Wednesday		
Thursday		

20. What happens during the day of the conventions?

21. Why are national political conventions still important?

22. The 2012 National Conventions

Democrats – Charlotte, North Carolina

Republicans – Tampa, Florida

23. Who selects the vice presidential nominee for a party?

24. What does “balance-the-ticket” mean? Give an example.

25. Who drafts the party platform? Describe their ideology and partisanship.

26. When is the platform drafted?

27. When does the platform become official?

28. Why is the party's platform important?

29. How do campaigns increase the size of government?

30. Organization of a Political Campaign (Ask questions b/c I'll just assume you know.)

Campaign Manager	
Consultants General, Media (Paid Media), Direct Mail	
Pollster	
Finance Director & Fundraising Staff	
Press Secretary, Social Media Director (Earned Media)	
Research Staff & Policy Advisors (Types of Research)	
General Campaign Staff (Driver Aide, . . .)	
Volunteers & Grassroots Activities	
Campaign Co-Chairs Finance Committee Surrogates (Celebrity?)	
Campaign Counsel & Treasurer	
'Targeted Race' Role of the NRCC/DCCC NRSC/DSCC OR RNC/DNC	
Campaign Strategy 50% + 1 person Maximize, Minimize	
Resources -- Candidate's Time, \$\$	
Coalitions	
Activation, Reinforcement, Or Conversion	
GOTV	
Open Race Challenger, Incumbent	
Headquarters	

31. When and why was the FECA passed?

32. What were its two main goals?

33. Identify the components of the FECA

Federal Election Campaign Act	

34. Explain *Buckley v. Valeo*.

35. Soft Money & McCain-Feingold (BCRA)

36. Explain *Citizens United*.

37. What are the criticisms of the ruling in *Citizens United*?

38. What does the acronym PAC mean?

39. Explain how a PAC works?

40. Could you set up a PAC?

41. List different types of PACS.

42. Which ones are the most well-funded?

43. Have they become more or less popular?